

Brittain-Richardson and Company Building  
224 North Fourth Street  
St. Joseph  
Buchanan County  
Missouri

HABS No. MO-1859

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

BRITTAIR-RICHARDSON AND COMPANY BUILDING HABS No. MO-1859

Location: 224 North Fourth Street, St. Joseph, Buchanan County, Missouri

Significance: Building housed activities of a wholesale concern important in the commercial history of St. Joseph; today it is one of few structures in the town remaining from that era.

Description: Four-story, three-bay structure with cast-iron pillars on street level. Building is stone and brick, with bracketed entablatures separating the first and second, and the third and fourth stories.

A paneled stone band divides the second and third stories. Openings on the east facade and most of the north facade have keystone lintels. The north facade has stone pilasters and stringcourses.

History: Completed 1882. Architect: Edmond Jacques Eckel. The Brittain-Richardson Company Building originally had a flight of cast-iron steps giving access to the Fourth Street entrance. These steps were removed when the main entrance was moved to the north side of the building. A loading dock was cut into the north wall west of the central bay. The original metal cornice, with brackets, a central (east) nameplate, and urn-shaped finials, has been completely removed. An iron balcony at the third-story level in the central front bay has also been removed.

For more information about "Wholesale Row," the surrounding commercial district, see HABS No. MO-1856, R.L. McDonald and Company Building.

Source: National Register of Historic Places nomination form, "Wholesale Row," compiled by Nancy E. Sandehn, January, 1976.

Historian: Robert Buerglener, HABS, August, 1988.